Appln. No. 09/689,005 Reply to Office Action of 07/09/03

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended): A recording/reproducing apparatus for recording and reproducing data on and from a disk-shaped recording medium an optical disk that has an address data area having embossed pits and a recording/reproducing area having a wobbling spiral groove, said apparatus comprising:

head means for reading address data from the address data area and writing and reading a signal in and from the recording/reproducing area;

wobble-signal processing means for extracting a wobble signal from the signal the head means obtains from the wobbling spiral groove and for providing the wobble signal to a PLL circuit means for producing a sync signal from the wobble signal; and

pulse means for producing a pulse at least during a wobble signal disturbance period occurring when switching the recording/reproducing apparatus between at least one of recording and reproducing operations and for providing the pulse to the PLL circuit means, said PLL circuit means further providing an unchanging sync signal during the wobble signal disturbance period occurring when switching between at least one of recording and reproducing operations in response to receiving the pulse.

Claims 2-5 (canceled).

6. (Currently Amended): A recording/reproducing method of recording and reproducing data on and from a disk-shaped recording medium an optical disk that has an address data area having embossed pits and a recording/reproducing area having a wobbling spiral groove, said method comprising the steps of:

extracting a wobble signal from a signal obtained from the wobbling spiral groove; providing the wobble signal to a PLL circuit to produce a sync signal from the wobble signal;

providing a pulse to the PLL circuit at least during a wobble signal disturbance period occurring when switching between at least one of recording and reproducing operations to cause the PLL circuit to hold the sync signal unchanged through the wobble signal disturbance period occurring when switching between at least one of recording and reproducing operations.

- 7. (Previously Presented): The recording/reproducing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the pulse means is connected to provide the pulse to an input gate of the PLL circuit means also receiving the wobble signal from the wobble-signal processing means.
- 8. (Previously Presented): The recording/reproducing method according to Claim 6, wherein the pulse and the wobble signal are provided to respective inputs of a gate input of the PLL circuit.
 - 9. (Currently Amended): A recording/reproducing apparatus configured to record and

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reproduce data on and from a disk-shaped recording medium an optical disk that has an address data area having embossed pits and a recording/reproducing area having a wobbling spiral groove, said apparatus comprising:

a head configured to read address data from the address data area and to write and read a signal in and from the recording/reproducing area;

a wobble-signal processing circuit configured to extract a wobble signal from the signal the head obtains from the wobbling spiral groove and to provide the wobble signal to a PLL circuit configured to produce a sync signal from the wobble signal; and

pulse circuitry configured to produce a pulse at least during a wobble signal disturbance period occurring when switching the recording/reproducing apparatus between at least one of a recording and reproducing operation and to provide the pulse to the PLL circuit, said PLL circuit being further configured to provide an unchanging sync signal during the wobble signal disturbance period occurring when switching the recording/reproducing apparatus between at least one of recording and reproducing operations in response to receiving the pulse.

10. (Previously Presented): The recording/reproducing apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein the pulse circuitry is connected to provide the pulse to an input gate of the PLL circuit also receiving the wobble signal from the wobble-signal processing circuit